

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

May 20, 2010

Col. Al Lee, New Orleans District Commander
Army Corps of Engineers
7400 Leake Ave.
New Orleans, LA 70118

Adm. Thad Allen, Commandant
United States Coast Guard
2100 Second St. SW Stop 7101
Washington, DC 2059

Dear Col. Lee and Adm. Allen,

We write today to urge you to quickly approve the emergency authorization request submitted by Governor Bobby Jindal on May 11, 2010, and to incorporate these plans into the Incident Action Plan.

Approving the authorization and including this work as part of the Incident Action Plan will allow the State to immediately begin constructing a sand barrier along our barrier islands. This work will provide a critical barrier against the oil that continues to leak in the Gulf of Mexico.

As heavy oil is now coating our marshes, it is imperative that the Corps of Engineers and the U.S. Coast Guard work with the State of Louisiana to ensure we are pursuing every avenue possible to protect our marshlands. Our coastal wetlands not only provide critical hurricane protection to South Louisiana but also serve as home to over 400 species that live in the spill area and 26 percent of the fisheries catch in the lower 48 states.

We implore you to immediately approve the emergency authorization request submitted by Governor Jindal. If the Louisiana Congressional delegation can be of any assistance as we work together to protect these vital resources, do not hesitate to let us know.

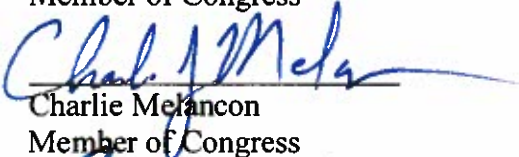
Sincerely,



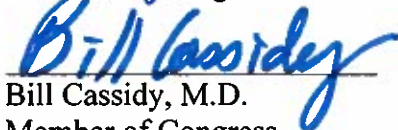
Mary Landrieu
United States Senator



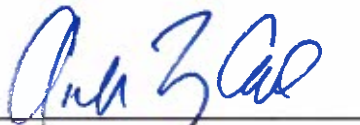
Rodney Alexander
Member of Congress



Charlie Melancon
Member of Congress



Bill Cassidy, M.D.
Member of Congress



Anh "Joseph" Cao
Member of Congress



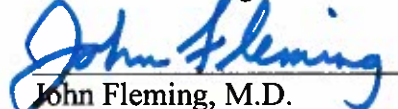
David Vitter
United States Senator



Charles Boustany, M.D.
Member of Congress



Steve Scalise
Member of Congress



John Fleming, M.D.
Member of Congress